

**Higgs Beach Park Planning Committee Meeting / Minutes**  
**4/30/09                      Harvey Government Center                      2:00 pm – 4:00 pm**

Present: Commissioners Heather Carruthers and Teri Johnston, Hank Dean, Michael Behmke, Dent Pierce, SuAnne Kitchar, Roger McVeigh, Rosi Ware, Eric Holowacz, Sam Holland, Jane Dawkins, Don Craig, Candace Whitaker, Sofia Artola, Rick Worth, Carol Schreck (Aide to Commissioner Carruthers)

I. Introductions

II. Agenda approved

III. 4/22/09 minutes approved (Eric Holowacz moved / Hank Dean seconded)

IV. Communications

In order to ensure the accuracy of information regarding Higgs Beach and the renovation process, the following communication policies were adopted:

1. All information will be disseminated through Commissioner Carruthers' office or Chair of the Planning Committee, Michael Behmke
2. Press Releases, with summary of meeting decisions / actions, forwarded to local papers. The press release is to be distributed through County Commissioner Heather Carruthers' office.
3. All agendas, minutes and press releases will be available, once approved by the board, on the county Higgs Beach web page:  
[http://monroecofl.virtualltownhall.net/Pages/MonroeCoFL\\_Facilities/higgsbeach](http://monroecofl.virtualltownhall.net/Pages/MonroeCoFL_Facilities/higgsbeach)
4. Clothing Optional Beach: No comment will be made until a direction is obtained from the county attorney and BOCC.

V. Goal of Meeting

- To determine project list and associated funds to submit to DAC 1's Special Beach Fund.
- To determine plan and strategy for moving forward
- Review of brainstorm list of "wishes" from various public input sessions

VI. Special Beach Funds projects

Committee determined they want to keep the architectural style of the bathrooms. No funds will be designated for umbrella tables at this time.

The committee agreed to compose a letter of petition to the City of Key West, requesting funds from the recently allocated \$1.2m ARRA (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act) fund for wastewater / drainage / outfall compliance at Higgs Beach.

Eric Holowacz made the motion, seconded by Don Craig to direct Monroe County Public Works to submit the following projects for funding through the TDC's (DAC 1) Special Beach Funds (\$485k)

- |                       |        |
|-----------------------|--------|
| • Bathroom renovation | \$120k |
| • Seawall patching    | \$10k  |

• Crosswalk & Striping (provide safe path to restrooms)	\$10k
• Master Plan / preliminary working drawings / (ID of initial / long-term funding sources, environmental & shore preservation studies)	\$150k
• Call boxes	\$1k
• Signage (replace, update and move)	\$2k
• Solar Lighting (tiki huts and pavilions)	\$16k
• Recycle Center	\$3k
• Beach replenishment (sand)	\$10k
• Drainage / water quality	\$50k
• Landscaping	\$50k
• 15-20% contingency	\$63k

#### VII. Higgs Beach Project List

List of constituent input regarding Higgs Beach Park projects

The committee agreed to send the beach project brainstorm list to the Higgs Beach General Committee to ensure no items were missing. The group was reminded that this is a working “all inclusive” list from public input and not a final list.

#### VII. Friends of Higgs Beach / non-profit status

Tabled until next meeting

#### IX. Actions:

- Send list to Higgs Beach General Group asking if anything is missing (CAS)
- Upcoming Meeting Dates
 

May 6, 2009	DAC 1 Agenda deadline
May 20, 2009	DAC 1 meeting (3 pm Beachside)
June 9, 2009	TDC meeting (10 am Beachside)
- Letter to city RE: ARRA for Higgs Beach
- Establish “Friends of Higgs Beach” Board of Directors
- Strategy, scope and timeline for Master Plan RFQ (Request for Quote)